

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 126302 ACTION PORT OF SPAIN INFO DOD,
USDAO CARACAS, USDAO LONDON 30 MAY 75

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: FACILITATION OF ORIENTATION VISIT TO US BY
SENIOR GOTT OFFICIALS FOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
PLANNING.

REFERENCE: PORT OF SPAIN 1226

1. THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATION HAS
BEEN ASKED BY CU TO RESPOND TO COORDINATION GOTT OFFICIALS
REFTEL. FYI: FDRC HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH GOTT
NATIONAL EMERGENCY RELIEF COORDINATOR (NERO) MICHAEL BOREL
AND SECRETARY GENERAL, INTER-CARRIBBEAN EMERGENCY RELIEF
ORGANIZATION, VICTOR PRIZGAR. DURING TDY NOVEMBER 17,
1974 - DECEMBER 1, 1974 STAFF MEMBER MAHLER MET WITH
AMBASSADOR AND ROBERT RICH IN ADDITION TO MEETINGS WITH
BRIGADIER SERRETTE AND POLICE OFFICIALS. AT THAT TIME WE
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REVIEWED THE EXISTING BUT ANTIQUATED LAW AND PLANS WHICH
INDICATED DISASTER COORDINATION RESPONSIBILITY OF NERO
COORDINATOR, MICHAEL BOREL. END FYI.

2. ON DECEMBER 4, 1974 A LETTER WAS SENT TO PRIZGAR WITH COPIES TO ROBERT RICH INDICATING RESULTS OF FDRC FEASIBILITY STUDY. AT THAT TIME ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WAS OFFERED TO GOTT THROUGH EMBASSY AND BOREL TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPING A WORKABLE NATIONAL LAW AND REVIEW EXISTING DISASTER PLANS. PRIZGAR WAS TASKED WITH PROVIDING FDRC WITH THE FOLLOWING:

A. DISASTER PLAN AND/OR LAW FOR AT LEAST FOUR CARRIBBEAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING T & T.

B. HAZARD ANALYSIS AND RESOURCES ANALYSIS FOR FOUR CARRIBBEAN COUNTRIES ALSO INCLUDING T & T. FYI: TDY TEAM PROVIDED PRIZGAR AND BOREL FORMAT FOR HAZARD ANALYSIS AND INFORMATION ON HOW TO OBTAIN RESOURCE ANALYSIS. END FYI.

C. A PRELIMINARY COMMUNICATION SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF EQUIPMENT IN T & T AND FINALLY A DESCRIPTION OF EMERGENCY OPERATING CENTERS (EOC'S) THAT NOW EXIST IN T & T AND OTHER CARRIBBEAN COUNTRIES. WHEN THIS MATERIAL IS RECEIVED FDRC PROPOSED SENDING A TEAM OF EXPERTS TO T & T TO ASSIST IN FINALIZING DISASTER PLANS AND LAWS.

3. WE WELCOME THE VISIT OF BRIGADIER SERRETTE, AND COL. RODRIGUEZ AND WILL COORDINATE THEIR VISIT AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY - JUNE 9 - VISIT WITH OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATION, BOTH OPERATIONS AND PLANNING DIVISION.

TUESDAY - JUNE 10 - VISIT WITH DCPA, DEFENSE CIVIL PREPAREDNESS, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 11 - OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS SEMINAR (IDPS) WHICH COMMENCES ON JUNE 10 AND WHICH WILL INCLUDE 24 HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISASTER PLANNING AND OPERATIONS.

THURSDAY - JUNE 12 - TRAVEL TO BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN FOR ONE DAY BRIEFING IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND PLANNING BY DCPA STAFF COLLEGE AND NATIONAL GUARD.

FRIDAY - JUNE 13 - RETURN WASHINGTON FOR DEBRIEFING BY FDRC STAFF.

SATURDAY - JUNE 14 - DEPART WASHINGTON.

4. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME ADVANTAGES TO HAVING SERRETTE

AND RODRIGUEZ VISIT THE HURRICANE AREA SUCH AS DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND THE NOAA FACILITY IN CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, WE FEEL THAT THE LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION OF THESE US FACILITIES IS NOT ATTAINABLE AT THE PRESENT TIME BY GOTT. THEREFORE EXTENDED VISIT NOT FEASIBLE . WE HOPE THAT ABOVE SCHEDULE WILL IMPRESS UPON GOTT THE NECESSITY FOR APPROPRIATE LAWS AND PLANNING AND THE NEED FOR CENTRALIZED CONTROL THROUGH EXISTING EMERGENCY ORGANIZATIONS OR THE CREATION OF A NEW EMERGENCY ORGANIZATION THAT CAN IN FACT COORDINATE ALL PHASES OF DISASTER RESPONSE.

4. WE AGAIN EMPHASIZE THAT THE OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR IS AVAILABLE AND ANXIOUS TO ASSIST GOTT OFFICIALS IN DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE HURRICANE RESPONSE SYSTEM. ADVISE IF SCHEDULE IS ACCEPTABLE ASAP. INGERSOLL UNQTE

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